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Letter, February 24, 1909

Carbon Copy Beinn Bhreag February 24, 1909 Dear little girl,

It was a really wonderful flight Douglas made this morning. He started from about 100 yards from the boat house out on the bay flew across towards the Kennan's boathouse and thence toward the light house making a glorious sweep and came back past B. B. shore passing close by me purposely as I said I hadn't really seen yesterday's flight and swept out of sight on the tongue of land forming the entrance to the harbor — way up the bay. Unfortunately, he miscalculated the space there for making the return curve and after starting it was obligated to make a bad landing to avoid trees. In the air 6 minutes — beautiful sight. This evening he tried the Cygnet II with the same propeller but it was not large enough and besides they strained the drome carrying it across the penninsular. I fear Papa feels down this evening although he knew the chances of success were of the slimmest. The drome is such a beautiful sight it goes to Daddysan's heart. He sits by himself while the tests are going on absolutely still. He was almost as pleased this A. M. as if the Silver Dart was absolutely his own machine and so proud of Douglas. All the Associated Press despatches are written by him. The Town Council of Baddeck voted to enter the event on the town records and sent Papa and Douglas copies of the resolution. John McDermid lost his head and drove straight across Douglas's path to get out of his way!

Lovingly, Mamma

Dear Gib

These are copies from my mother to our Auntie Daisy describing the original flight of the Silica Dart your like it